..Welfare measures in coal mining areas

1408. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what welfare measures, if any, are being taken by the nationalised coal industry in the coal mining areas of Madhya Pradesh which are primarily inhabited by the tribals;

(b) what is the average amount spent every year for the above purpose; and

(c) whether any amount is spent for the benefit of local tribals; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) Annual plans of coal companies now also include provisions for community development including a special component for benefit of Scheduled Tribes inhabiting the coal mining areas under the Revised 20-Point Programme. The Plans include provisions of drinking water, medical facilities, sports and cultural programmes, financial assistance and training for self employment, etc. Three coal companies namely, SECL, WCL and NCL operate in Madhya Pradesh. Information regarding the current level of expenditure of these companies on schemes of community development/tribal welfare is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Demand and Production of Power in Madhya Pradesh

1409. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the average capacity of production of power of Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board during the last three years;

(b) what has been the corresponding demand of power during the same period; and

(c) how do the Central Government intend to help the Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board in bridging this yawning gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The energy generation in Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 was 11795 MU, 12734 MU and 13094 MU respectively.

(b) The energy requirement in Madhya Pradesh during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 was 11226 MU, 12781 MU and 14047 MU respectively.

(c) In addition to the energy generated by Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, the State gets its share of energy from the Central Sector generating stations and the gap between the energy availability and energy demand in the State during 1987-88 has been only about 4 per cent. During 1989-90 the projections may indicate a surplus position in respect of energy availability *vis-a-vis* energy demand. Various measures, namely, expediting commissioning of new generation capacity, optimum utilisation of existing capacity, reduction of transmission & distribution losses, implementation of renovation and modernisation schemes at Korba, Amarkantak and Satpura thermal power stations shall facilitate reducing the gap between power/energy demand and availability.

Waiting list for Telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh

1410. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone con-